TAFCO

3285. SHRI PRADIP BHATTACHARYA: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the present condition and number of workers accommodation available at the Allenganj Settlement of the Tannery and Footwear Corporation of India Limited;

(b) whether some accommodation had collapsed due to non-maintenance;

(c) if so, the details thereof alongwith number of persons injured therefrom;

(d) whether any alternative arrangements have been made to accommodate them;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) whether the Government propose to take initiative to rescue the workers most of whom belong to SC/ ST and minority communities; and

(g) if so, the facts and details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN): (a) There are 585 quarters for workers in the Allenganj Settlement of TAFCO. These are more than 70 years and are not in good condition.

(b) and (c) The inner layers of ceiling of two houses had partially collapsed during the last monsoon and one family member of an employee had sustained miner injuries.

(d) and (e) The occupants of these two houses were given alternate accommodation in the colony.

(f) and (g) Company has been advised to take remedial steps. TAFCO has carried out miner repairs of roofs of a large number of quarters, to the extent possible, within the limited internal resources.

Foreign Investment Proposals

3286. SHRIMATI MEIRA KUMAR: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of foreign investment proposals that have been cleared with the stipulated to set up 100 per cent export oriented units in the country during the last one year; and

(b) the details of such investors, the field of investment and the location of the proposed units?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN): (a) 162 proposals, involving foreign/NRI investment have been approved to set up 100 per cent Export-Oriented Units in the country during the year 1996.

(b) The foreign investments are from different countries including Holland, UK, Mauritius, USA, Israel, Italy,, Singapore, Germany, etc. The Export-Oriented Units (EOUs) are proposed to be set up in various sectors namely floriculture, textiles, computer software, food processing, etc. These units are proposed to be located in various parts of the country.

[Translation]

Textile Mills in MP

3287. SHRI SUSHIL CHANDRA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of the textile mills in Madhya Pradesh lying closed and the time by which they are lying closed;

(b) the reasons for their closure and whether there is any possibility of their reopening in future;

(c) the action taken by the Government in regard to the suggestions given by textile mills owners regarding sale of their land; and

(d) the amount of salaries of workers outstanding towards each of the closed mills in Madhya Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI R.L. JALAPPA): (a) There are nine Cotton/Manmade Fibre Textile Mills lying closed in the State of Madhya Pradesh, as on 31.12.96.

Two of these nine mills have been lying closed since 1986, 4 since 1991 and one each since 1992, 1994 and 1995.

(b) The major reasons for closure of these textile mills are financial crisis/difficulties. Out of the 9 closed Cotton/Manmade Fibre Textile Mills, in the State of M.P., 4 Mills were registered with Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR) as on 31.1.1997. Out of these 4 Mills, the BIFR has recommended winding up under Section 20(1) of the SICA, 1985 in respect of 3 Mills. The draft rehabilitation package has, however, been sanctioned by the BIFR only in respect of one Mill. The other 5 mills do not fall within the purview of BIFR.

(c) As per available information, the Government is not aware of any suggestion given by textile will owners ragarding sale of their land.

(d) Information on the dues of the workers of the closed textile mills (including the outstanding salaries of their workers) is not maintained.

[English]

Handloom Cooperative Societies

3288. SHRI KESHAB MAHANTA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:-

(a) the number of Handloom Cooperative Societies functioning at present in Assam;

(b) the amount of financial assistance provided to them by the Union Government during the last year; and

(c) the scheme under which assistance is being given to them alongwith the guidelines in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI R.L. JALAPPA): (a) At present 2539 Handloom Cooperative Societies are functioning in the State of Assam.

(b) and (c) During the year 1995-96, financial assistance of Rs. 13.06 Crores has been provided under the following Handloom schemes:-Project Package, Integrated Handloom Village Development, National Silk Yarn Bank, Hank Yarn Price Subsidy, Janata Cloth, Health Package, Handloom Development Centre, Market Development Assistance, Margin Money for Destitute Weavers, Workshed-cum-Housing and Jute Handloom Development Centre Scheme.

Under the various Handloom Schemes the assistance is provided to the Handloom Cooperative Societies for supply of inputs, training, development of priducts, marketing, welfare of weavers etc. The pattern of financial assistance varies from scheme to scheme.

Foreign Institutional Investors

3289. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Foreign Institutional Investors (FIIs) will be allowed to invest in any listed companies in the infrastructure sectors;

(b) if so, whether these changes have been proposed by the Government and referred to the SEBI; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the time by which they are likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR): (a) to (c) In terms of the guidelines announced by the Government on 14th September 1992, read with Foreign Institutional Investor (FII) Regulation 1995 as amended from time to time. FIIs are allowed to invest in the securities of all listed and unlisted companies, including companies in the infrastructure sector.

Narcotic Problem in Goa

3290. SHRI AYYANNA PATRUDU: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the narcotic problem continues unabated in Goa;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to make some changes in the drug laws for tackling the growing drug abuse problem in India; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR): (a) Drug trafficking is a clandestine activity. Although seizures of various narcotic drugs in the State of Goa during the year 1996 have shown a declining trend compared to the data of narcotic drugs seized during 1995, it cannot be said definitely whether narcotic problem in Goa continues unabated.

(b) and (c) It is proposed to amend the N.D.P.S. Act, inter-alia, to rationalise the sentence structure so as to make the Act more effective by providing stringent punishment even for offences relating to cannabis including cultivation of cannabis. The enhanced punishment for previous convicts for selected offences is proposed to be extended to all the offences under the Act.

[Translation]

Fall Back Wages

3291. PROF. RITA VERMA: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) the names of collieries in which the workers were paid 'fall back wages' during the last three years, colliery-wise and year-wise;

(b) the reasons due to which 'fall back wages' are paid;

(c) the reasons due to which maximum 'fall back wages' were paid during the last three years; and

(d) the amount spent under 'fall back wages' head during the last three years, year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH): (a) The information relating to names of collieries in which the workers were paid 'fall back wages' during the last three years, colliery-wise and year-wise is quite voluminous. The efforts and labour involved in collecting the same will not be commensurate with the purpose sought to be achieved. However, numbers of collieries, company-wise and year-wise where fall back wages during the last three years was paid are as under:

Company	1993-94	1994-95	1995-96
ECL	114	110	106
BCCL	78	78	76
CCL	34	34	37
NCL	Nil	Nil	Nil
WCL	41	41	45
SECL	16	19	23
MCL	6	5	5
NEC/CIL	Nil	1	Nil